

Message Text

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72-60

ORIGIN AF-05

INFO OCT-01 AS-01 ADP-00 /007 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:HRMELONE:JR

7/11/73 X28852

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUMJMA/AMEMBASSY MANILA 0279

CINCPAC

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 078240

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS:ET

SUBJECT: HMS ETHIOPIA

REF: (A) CHMAAG 03800Z JAN 72 B) CHMAAG 221330Z JAN 73

(C) CHMAAG 101344Z APR 73

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT

QUOTE R 252248Z APR 73 FM SECSTATE WASHDC NUMBER 78240

1. DEPT AND DOD HAVE REVIEWED OPTIONS REF (A) ON FUTURE OF HMS ETHIOPIA AND CONCLUDE OPTION 1 MOST REALISTIC UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

2. OPTIONS 3 AND 4 DO NOT APPEAR FEASIBLE. IEG IS NOT LIKELY TO ACCEPT REPLACEMENT WE COULD AFFORD, E.G., ARL, AND CLEARLY IS NOT YET READY FOR RETURN WITHOUT REPLACEMENT. ARGUMENTS AGAINST POSSIBLE SUBSTITUTION USN DE FOR HMS ETHIOPIA MADE REF C) LEAD US TO FOREGO FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THAT POSSIBILITY AT THIS TIME. IN ANY EVENT, DE NOT PRESENTLY AVAILABLE.

3. OPTION 2 WOULD BE A RETROGRESSION FROM PAST U.S. EFFORTS TO GET IEG TO ASSUME INCREASED RESPONSIBILITY FOR HMS OPERATIONAL COSTS. THESE EFFORTS WERE UNDERTAKEN NOT PATIENT HOPE THAT IEG WOULD EVENTUALLY CONCLUDE THAT
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OBSOLESCEMENT HMS NO LONGER VIABLE INVESTMENT. ANY ATTEMPT

AT JOINT USG/IEG FUNDING WOULD LEAD AT BEST TO PROTRACTED HAGGLING AND WOULD MORE LIKELY HAVE SERIOUS ADVERSE EFFECT ON MAAG/IEG RELATIONS.

4. WE ARE AWARE OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS OF HMS ETHIOPIA IS LESS THAN OPTIMUM. IN LIGHT OF PAST EXPERIENCE, HOWEVER, WE DOUBT THAT WERE IT FULLY CAPABLE, UTILIZATION WOULD BE INCREASED SUFFICIENTLY TO JUSTIFY ADDITIONAL COSTS INVOLVED. IEG/USG FUNDS COULD BETTER BE USED FOR SMALLER CRAFT SUCH AS PGM'S IF COST EFFECTIVENESS ONLY CONSIDERATION.

5. COSTS REQUESTED REF (B) AS FOLLOWS: NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT MANPOWER COSTS AS ESTIMATED ARE SUBJECT TO ESCALATION.

SHIP YARD	MANDAY COST DOLS PER M/D)	EST. TOTAL OVERHAUL COSTS
SUBIC SHIP REPAIR FACILITY	15.30 DOLS	81,977 DOLS
YOKOSUKA, JAPAN	46.00	246,468
GUAM	105.00	562,590
SINGAPORE (PRIVATE YARD)	15.60	83,584
US SHIPYARD	135.00	723,330
	ASTERISK)	

ASTERISK - INCLUDES ESTIMATED NON-PRODUCTIVE TIME.)

THIS ESTIMATED COST FOR REPAIR PARTS FOR CRITICAL ITEMS (LISTED IN TAT REPORT EXCEPT NR. 49,77-79) IS 250,000 DOLS WHICH IS WITHIN PRESENT AMOUNT PROGRAMMED UNDER MAP FOR OVERHAUL OF HMS.

6. SINCE IEG IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING COST OF LABOR FOR HMS OVERHAULING, WE FEEL THAT COST AT US GUAM
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FACILITY WOULD BE PROHIBITIVE.

7. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON LIMITING ESSENTIALLY TO CRITICAL ITEMS THE NEXT OVERHAUL OF HMS. ROGERS

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